HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. 4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

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ECONOMIC AND CONSUMER POLICY

April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chair House Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro,

I write to urge that the House Committee on Appropriations award Community Project Funding for the Georgia Piedmont Technical College Regional Transportation Training Center. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Georgia Piedmont Technical College, located at 495 North Indian Creek Dr, Clarkston, GA, 30025.

There is a significant need for skilled transportation and logistics workers in the region. A number of jobs in the region remain unfilled and the training space for delivering training is inadequate. Located in DeKalb County, in the City of Stonecrest, Georgia Piedmont Technical College's Regional Transportation Training Center (RTTC) serves as Georgia's largest public transportation training center. Presently, the RTTC provides workforce development training in the areas of CDL (Commercial Driver's License) Class A and B for new employees and incumbents. This includes working with metro Atlanta's largest public transportation provider, MARTA, as well as trucking companies like Schneider and DART.

The current physical space and teaching resources available are inadequate to provide training at the level in which our business and industry partners expect. Facilities are outdated and too small to host the maximum number of trainees requested by companies. This hampers the College's ability to train enough workers to keep up with the current and projected training needs of regional transportation and logistics employers.

The expansion of the RTTC will also provide opportunities to establish additional high demand programs in distribution, logistics, and transportation. GPTC's impact in successfully creating such programs is critically important to both the workforce needs of the companies and economic development landscape of the region as the college. For example, the college serves major employers moving into the county such as Amazon and existing companies looking to expand their operations such as Home Chef. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Hank John

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